cost, etc. In view of this, the Government constituted a Task Force to strengthen the co-operative credit structure, the report of which has been accepted by the Government for implementation. This is expected to bring overall improvement in the short-term co-operative credit structure thereby enabling them to reduce their lending rates.

Funding of Mega Projects

1532. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposals under India Infrastructure Financing Company Limited (IIFCL) for funding mega projects from various State Governments, particularly the State of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) No proposal has been received from Maharashtra.

(b) Does not arise.

Kisan Credit Cards

1533. DR.GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for issuing Kisan Credit Cards;

(b) the objectives for issuing these Cards;

(c) the number of farmers in Rajasthan eligible for Kisan Credit Cards;

(d) the number of Kisan Credit Cards issued to farmer of Rajasthan, till date since its inception, year-wise;

(e) the amount of money advanced to these farmers under this scheme, year-wise; and

(f) by when Government expect to cover all the farmers of Rajasthan under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme was primarily intended to cater to the short-term credit requirements of the farmers and the banks issued KCCs to farmers who